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DRAWING AMENDMENTS

The applicant has attached hereto a revised set of figures, with Figure 2 being a current replacement figure.

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. In the above referenced Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-9, 16-21, and 28-31 under 35 USC § 102 (b) as being anticipated by Burrell (U.S. Patent No. 3,753,543). In addition, the Examiner rejected claim 2 under 35 USC § 112, first paragraph. The Examiner has objected to the drawings. The rejections and objections have been traversed and, as such, the applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the allowability of claims 1-9, 16-21, and 28-31.
2. Claims 1-9, 16-21, and 28-31 have been rejected under 35 USC § 102 (b) as being anticipated by Burrell (U.S. Patent No. 3,753,543). The applicant respectfully disagrees with this rejection and the reasoning thereof.

Burrell does not teach or suggest a base having a first geometric shape in a first plane to support the container. Instead, Burrell teaches at column 2, lines 14 – 21 a yoke comprising a base 24 and a pair of generally parallel spaced apart projecting arms 25 is welded or otherwise fixed to one end of support plane 10. Arms 25 in turn are welded or otherwise rigidly secured to a generally circular support ring 26, which is open on one side and is provided with a pair of outwardly projecting ears 27 and 28. Support ring 26 is of a size to receive and engage the bottom flange 19 of the gas container.

As such, Burrell is teaching that the support ring 26 engages the container, not the base as is presently claimed. Thus, claims 1-9, 16-21, and 28-31 are not anticipated by Burrell.

3. Claim 2 has been rejected under 35 USC § 112, first paragraph. The claim has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion.
4. The Examiner has objected to the drawings. A replacement figure 2 is attached hereto that includes the neck 24, the stand 22, and the adjustable mechanism 20.

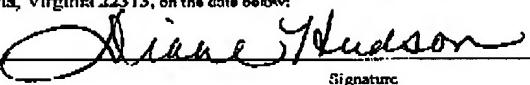
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For the foregoing reasons, the applicant believes that claims 1-9, 16-21, and 28-31 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that they be passed to allowance.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone or facsimile if the Examiner believes that such a communication would advance the prosecution of the present invention.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

By: /Timothy W. Markison reg. 33,534/
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<small>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING FACSIMILE 37 C.F.R 1.8</small>	
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<small>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Alexandria, Virginia 22313, on the date below:</small>	
<u>08/16/2006</u> <small>Date</small>	 <small>Diane Hudson</small> <small>Signature</small>